STAND, COM. REP. NO.

3377

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 4 2014

RE:

H.B. No. 737

H.D. 2 S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim President of the Senate Twenty-Seventh State Legislature Regular Session of 2014 State of Hawaii

## Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 737, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to statutorily implement a proposed constitutional amendment that authorizes the State to issue special purpose revenue bonds and use the proceeds from the bonds to assist agricultural enterprises.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii, Alexander and Baldwin, Inc., and Hawaii Farmers Union United. Written comments on this measure were received from the Department of Budget and Finance, the Department of Agriculture, and the Local Food Coalition.

Your Committee finds that special purpose revenue bonds provide the private sector with access to the lower rates available in public finance capital markets. Your Committee further finds that decaying plantation-era or obsolete infrastructure, high transportation costs, and regulatory compliance issues threaten the food security and sustainability of our State. Farmers and ranchers need access to affordable capital to implement the many projects that contribute to feeding the State's residents. If the proposed constitutional amendment

authorizing the use of special purpose revenue bonds for this purpose is ratified, this measure will provide the statutory means by which agriculturalists may avail themselves of this financing mechanism.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 737, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

DAVID Y ICE Chair

## The Senate Twenty-Seventh Legislature State of Hawai'i

## Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* H B 737 H02 80\	Committee Referral:		i	Date: 3 -28-14	
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)			-		
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)		V			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne					
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.					
ENGLISH, J. Kalani					
ESPERO, Will					
KAHELE, Gilbert					
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.					
KOUCHI, Ronald D.					
RUDERMAN, Russell E.					
THIELEN, Laura H.					
TOKUDA, Jill N.					
SLOM, Sam					
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Recommendation:  Adopted  Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:  Numbelle O Kidani					
Distribution:         Original         Yellow         Pink         Goldenrod           File with Committee Report         Clerk's Office         Drafting Agency         Committee File Copy					

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes